

The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist

Sunday 30C | 26 October 2025

Faith and the long defeat

Welcome to this service of worship at Mark the Evangelist!
Today's service is being live-streamed for the participation of those
who can't join us physically today

A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Prelude Francois Couperin, *Tierce en Taille*

The Gathering of the People of God

Sung Processional (TIS 52 v.1)

If you are able, please stand when the cantor sings the first line, and sing as the Scriptures are brought into the worship space:

**Let us sing to the God of salvation,
let us sing to the Lord our rock!
Let us come to God's house with thanksgiving,
let us come before the Lord and sing!**

**Praise our Maker, praise our saviour,
praise the Lord our everlasting king!
Every throne must bow before him,
God is Lord of everything!**

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Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Come, praise the LORD;

we worship the God who answers prayer.

Come all, that God may lift you up;

God heals us and makes us whole.

cf. Psalm 65:1,2

Prayer of invocation

Hymn 61 Sing, all creation, sing to God in gladness

With the Children



The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching

ForeWord

Word: The Testimony of Scripture

Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path.

John 17:11-17 *I send them into the world*

This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

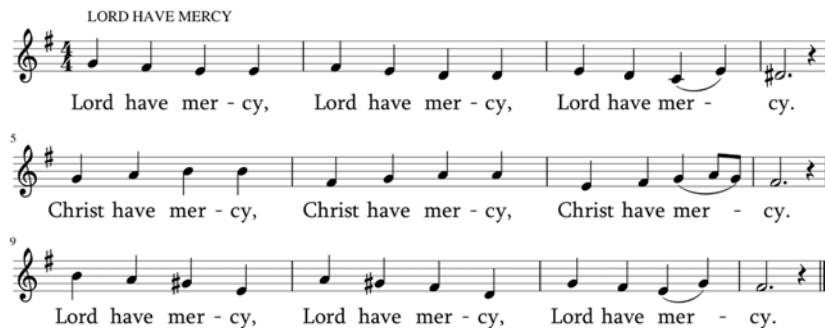
Word: In Preaching

*The sermon text will normally be available
after worship and online*

A 'sermon of stillness' – a moment for quiet reflection – usually follows the preaching

AfterWord: Confession

LORD HAVE MERCY



Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy.

Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

Declaration of Forgiveness

(Please stand if you are able)

...hear, then, Christ's word of grace to us:
Your sins are forgiven.

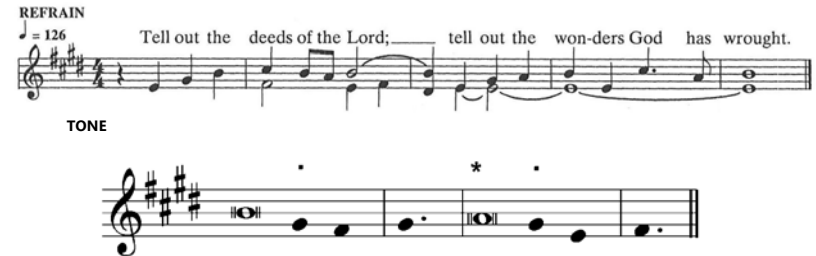
Thanks be to God!

Doxology via Psalm 65:1-11 *When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you
forgive our transgressions.* PCS 343

REFRAIN: Organ, then all together (sung also at the end).

The psalm text is then sung responsively to the TONE

REFRAIN



TONE

- ¹ Praise is due to you, O | God, in Zion;
to you that answer prayer shall | vows be paid.
- ² To you shall all flesh come to con- | -fess their sins;
**when our misdeeds prevail against us, you will purge | them
away.**
- ³ Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts | to
dwell there.
**We shall be satisfied with the blessings of your house, even
of your | holy temple.**
- ⁴ With wonders you will answer us in your righteousness, O God of
| our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the | farthest seas.
- ⁵ In your strength you set | fast the mountains
and are girded a- | -bout with might.
- ⁶ You still the raging | of the seas,
the roaring of their waves and the clamour | of the peoples.
- ⁷ Those who dwell at the ends of the earth tremble | at your
marvels;
the gates of the morning and evening | sing your praise.
- ⁸ You visit the earth and | water it;
you make it | very plenteous.

- ⁹ The river of God is | full of water;
you prepare grain for your people, for so you provide | for the earth.
- ¹⁰ You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;
you soften the ground with showers and bless | its increase.
- ¹¹ You crown the year | with your goodness,
and your paths over- | -flow with plenty.
- ¹² May the pastures of the wilderness | flow with goodness
and the hills be | girded with joy.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Apostles' Creed

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

Prayers of the People

Offering

(We remain seated as the offering is brought forward)

*Many members now make their offering by electronic transfer; the plate will be passed for those who prefer to make cash/envelope offerings. The prayer dedicating the offerings 'captures' the full range of gifts.
We set the offering at the foot of the cross, with the whole of ourselves.*

The Visible Word: Eucharist

Hymn 145 The king of love my shepherd is

(If you are able, please remain standing until after the Lord's Prayer)

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(The prayer continues...)

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

5



hea-ven and earth are full of your glor-y, ho - san - na in the high-est!

BENEDICTUS



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Ho -

4



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The Lord's Prayer

***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.***

Give us today our daily bread.

***Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.***

***Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.***

***For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.***

(The people sit)

The Breaking of the Bread

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus bear - er of our sin have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world, grant us peace.

...Let us receive what we are,
let us become what we receive
The body of Christ

The Communion

The Uniting Church recognises this Table as the Lord's and, so, open to all who would normally commune in their home congregations.

GATHERING: *We'll gather in a circle around the table for the distribution of the elements; please wait until all have received and the prayer is said before returning to your seats.*

If you can't stand or walk to the front but would like to receive communion, please raise your hand if the celebrant has not already noticed you.

Notices

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 547 Be thou my vision

Word of Mission and Blessing

Postlude JS Bach, *Fugue* in G minor

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We'd love to hear your feedback on the service.

Our email address is:

enquiries@marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au

Our website is:

<http://marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au/>

The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle

Antigua and Barbuda

Antigua and Barbuda is a state in the Leeward Islands. It became independent in 1981, after more than three centuries of British colonial rule, and brief occupations by France in the 17th and 18th century, during which slaves were brought to the islands. Sugar cane plantations dominated the economy in the past. The agriculture has been diversified, and tourism is an important source of income. The WCC member churches present in Antigua and Barbuda are the Church of the Province of the West Indies (Anglican), the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas, and the Moravian Church, Eastern West Indies Province. Together with the Catholic Church, which is relatively small, and the Salvation Army, these churches form the Antigua Christian Council. There is also a United Evangelical Association of Antigua and Barbuda, affiliated with the WEA. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is a growing Evangelical church. Rastafarianism, an Afro-Caribbean religion brought to Antigua from Jamaica, has a following among the people of the islands.

Bahamas

The Bahamas is constituted by a group of islands southeast of Florida (USA) and northeast of Cuba. Arawak Indians lived in the islands before the arrival of the Europeans. British settlement began in 1647 and the islands became a British colony in 1783. The Bahamas achieved independence in 1973. Although a developing country, Bahamas has a strong economy based on tourism and international banking and investment management. WCC member churches present in the Bahamas are the Church of the Province in the West Indies (Anglican), the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas, and the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church (USA). The largest Protestant church is the Baptist Union. Several Pentecostal churches from the USA are present in the Bahamas, e.g. the Church of God (Cleveland) and the Assemblies of God. The Bahamas Christian Council has a wide membership, including Protestants, Catholics, Orthodox and Pentecostals.

NOTICES

'STORIES OF SAINTS IN FILM' – TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER

The Revd Canon Dr Bob Derrenbacker - Dean, Trinity College Theological School

This presentation will examine the portrayal of three saints of the church – Joan of Arc (1412-1431), Sir Thomas More (1478-1535), and Franz Jägerstätter (1907-1943) – in three different films:

- 'The Passion of Joan of Arc' (dir. Carl Theodor Dreyer [1928])
- 'A Man for All Seasons' (dir. Fred Zinnemann [1966])
- 'A Hidden Life' (dir. Terrence Malick [2019])

Through discussion and the watching of film clips, we will consider how the filmmakers portray the 'saintliness' of the various protagonists in these films, how they communicate their portrayal through the art of filmmaking, how their filmmaking reflects the time in which their films were produced, and what the films may (or may not) be saying to viewers today.

Tuesday 28th October 6:00pm. Tickets via

<https://events.humanitix.com/films-and-faith-2025>

THE WESLEY CENTRE FOR THEOLOGY, ETHICS AND PUBLIC POLICY



MtE provides significant financial support for the Centre

THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER 6:00 PM FOR 6:30PM START

FREE WILL OR DIVINE SCRIPT? WHO'S REALLY IN CONTROL?

Christian and Muslim reflections on Theology and the World.

Panel Discussion with Rev Dr Daniel Sihombing, Pilgrim Theological College; Dr Omer Ergl, Islamic Sciences & Research Academy with Moderator Noor Gillani, from The Conversation. A conversation exploring Divine Control, Human Agency, and the implications for Moral Responsibility. Light Refreshments at 6:00pm. Panel starts at 6:30pm. Venue: Yuma Auditorium, Centre of Theology & Ministry, 29 College Crescent Parkville.

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/free-will-or-divine-script-whos-really-in-control-tickets-1395516079159?aff=oddtcreatorFAITH>

FAITH AFTER FAITH

Craig publishes weekly on *Faith after Faith*, a Substack site, including Sunday sermons with a bit more commentary, and other material. You can subscribe to receive email updates of recent posts (avoid the paid subscription invitations!).

See faithafterfaith.substack.com for more info, or use the QR image here to check in.

Recent posts include

- Recent Sermons
- New Theological Fragments



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

See above for more details on these events

Monday Morning Movies at the Nova	Mon Nov 3, time TBC
Church Council	Tue Nov 4, 7.30pm (online)
Hotham Mission Board	Fri Nov 21, 3pm @ CTM
Fourth Quarter Discussion Groups	TBA!

People to commemorate this week

Reformation Day, reformers of the Church

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

The Caribbean

Lectionary Readings | 02 November 2025

Hab 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Ps 119:137-144; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10

A Parish Mission of the UCA, MtE is responsible for Hotham Mission

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